

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please delete the following paragraphs and insert therefor the following.

Marked-up paragraphs to show the revisions made to the specification are attached.

Paragraph on page 8, lines 1-11:

para C-2
A1
~~In certain embodiments of the present invention, a catalyst may be present during the reaction of N-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-L-aspartic acid and the carbonyl compound. Suitable catalysts include, without limitation, p-toluenesulfonic acid. In certain embodiments of the present invention, an acid may be present during the reaction of N-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-L-aspartic acid and the carbonyl compound. Suitable acids include, without limitation, formic acid, acetic acid, p-toluenesulfonic acid, methane sulfonic acid, 10-camphorsulfonic acid and combinations thereof.~~

✓
Paragraph on page 16, lines 5-14:

A2
Neo-aspartic acid (5 mmol) was dissolved in 2,2-dimethoxypropane (10 ml) and 1,4-dioxane (10 ml). p-Toluenesulfonic acid (0.5 mmol) was added to the reaction mixture and refluxed for 48 hours. The solvent was removed from the reaction mixture, extraction using dichloromethane was performed, the organic layer was concentrated by vacuo and the residue was checked via ¹H NMR. 2-[(4S)-3-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-2,2-dimethyl-5-oxo-1,3-oxazolan-4-yl]acetic acid was obtained in about a 20% yield and with low purity.